Statement

Sr. No.	Name of Leather Chemical	Local price of Indigenous Chemical in Rs/Kg	Equivalent Imported Chemical	Landed cost of imported chemical in Rs/Kg
1	Pigments PPE Deep Black	78	Black	90.5
2	Wax Emulsion	27.45	FI- 50	90.8
3	Resin Binders	69.7	RA--I	97
4	Lacquers	96.5	Unithane 59D	163.4
5	Non PCP Preservative	100	Busan 30 L	497
6	Synthetic Fat Liquor	65	Ossipol LN	83.8
7	Synthetic Fat Liquor	52.1	Lipsol E	61
8	Synthetic Fat Liquor	68	Neopristol SW	81.3
9	Resins Syntans	54.85	Locutan 50	168
10	Dyes-non Benzidine	398	D--Black	561.32
11	Syntan	51.56	Tanigan 5	40.96
12	Casein Binder	87.36	Deabind 1430	38.37
13	Acrylic Binder	63	Acrilem	38.4
14	Dye	584.31	Derma Dark Brown 2R	415.84
15	Lacquer	133.6	Icalac	102
16	Fat liquor	64.87	Dermol	51.6

Note: Prices are of representative varieties and will vary from manufacturer to manufacturer.

Conversion of fast disbursing programmes of loans into special project loans

117. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether all fast-disbursing programmes of loans from the World Bank are expected to be converted into special project loans;

(b) if so, whether this move is a part of new strategy worked out by the Finance Ministry in view of the adequate forex reserves;

(c) whether the strategy will rely on further cleaning up the portfolio of loans from the World Bank so that the total external debt comes down and only meaningful and viable projects get bank assistance;

(d) if so, whether any concrete decision in this regard has been worked out;

(e) if so, to what extent his has helped the Indian Government; and

(f) whether the World Bank has also released 3 programme loans during 1994-95, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE

(SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b) In view of the improvement in India's external accounts with current exchange reserves of over dollar 16 billion Government of India and the World Bank are of the view that no additional fast disbursing assistance is required in the foreseeable future.

(c) to (e) Government of India has already initiated Portfolio Rationalisation exercises and cancelled dollar 1.65 billion in 1991 and dollar 1.25 billion in 1993, from World Bank projects in various sectors; The Reviews were jointly conducted with the Bank, with a view to identifying amounts which could be cancelled/redeployed; to clear out the non-moving segments of the project portfolio and reduce aid overhang, as well as make headroom for fresh commitments. Savings of approx. dollar 500 million out of IDA cancellations were redeployed for the Social Safety Net adjustment credit.

(f) No, Sir. Does not arise.

Grant of fiscal relief to small scale sector in Punjab

118. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any memorandum to grant necessary fiscal reliefs for the small scale sector in Punjab which is under severe stress because of demand recession and unfavourable fiscal policy of the Government and harassment by dozens of inspectors;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what corrective measures, if any, have been taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this respect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY): (a) and (b) After the Budget 1994-95, many representations have been received from small scale sector in Punjab, requesting for various fiscal reliefs. Broadly the following requests have been made.

(i) To restore excise duty exemptions so as to help the small scale industry;

(ii) To simplify the procedures to be followed by SSI units to comply with the requirements of Central Excise Law; and

(iii) to allow credit of excise duty in respect of steel scrap without production of duty paying documents.

(c) Having regard to the representations received from the industry and others the Government restored the excise exemptions on certain goods like footwear upto a value of Rs. 50 per pair, umbrellas, corrugated boxes, parts of PD pumps, handkerchieves, shawls, soap made without the aid of power etc. Various measures for simplifying the, exise procedures for SSI units have also been taken by the Government. These measures include removal of the requirement of registration with the office of the DC (SSI) or Department of Industries for availing of duty exemption; discontinuation of filing of declaration by units having turnover of less than Rs. 30 lakhs in a year; acceptance of private records of the SSI units for excise purpose; restriction on the visit of SSI units by the inspectors. The facility or taking credit of excise duty has been further relaxed allowing even dealers to issue invoices on the basis fo which credit can by taken and as such the difficulties faced by small units in taking duty credit have been largely taken care of.